

2020 VISION

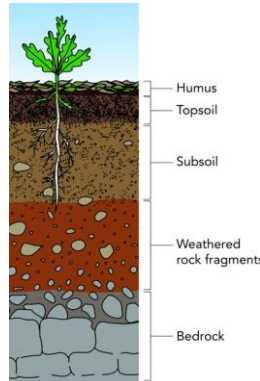
What Can This Become?

Bedrock of Eager Anticipation

[Core Truths Upon Which My Life's Foundation is Built]

Two Kinds of Spiritual Bedrock

- **Flesh Bedrock:** The primary objective in life is to pursue and attempt to find meaning by chasing after things that are temporary, and will not last. Flesh bedrock is based upon pursuing our wants, desires, lusts. If it feels good, do it! The outcome of flesh bedrock is death, because it is all temporary.
- **Spirit Bedrock:** The primary objective in life is to pursue and find meaning by having a personal relationship with God and living out His plan. The outcome of Spirit bedrock is eternal life.



Christ followers are faced with a big challenge:

We are in that space between "_____ " and "_____ "

1. "Already" - the commitment to follow Jesus/build my life on Spirit Bedrock has been made at some time in the past.
2. "Not Yet" - we have not yet experienced the **full** blessing because we are still living in a world with many challenges, temptations, and struggles for us as we build on Spirit Bedrock.

Romans 8:18-25 (NIV)

¹⁸ *I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.* ¹⁹ *For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.* ²⁰ *For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope* ²¹ *that^[a] the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.* ²² *We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.* ²³ *Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.* ²⁴ *For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have?* ²⁵ *But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently."*

I. The Analogy: (19-22)

The Old Testament Israelites viewed time as being comprised of two ages:

1) _____ 2) _____

"See, I will create a new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. ¹⁹ I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more."

- Isaiah 65:17-19

"To Adam he said, 'Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' 'Cursed is the ground because of you.'"

- Genesis 3:17a

The Extent of the Corruption of Creation:

(v 20) *subjected to frustration, not by its own choice* (v 21) *bondage to decay* (v 22) *We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.*

II. The Reality: (18, 23-25)

III. The Bedrock Gift: To those living between "Already" and "Not Yet": _____

"For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed." (19)

"We ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies." (23)

"It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death."

- Philippians 1:20

Eager Anticipation: "_____ "

"We wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently." (23b-25)

Building on Eager Anticipation Bedrock: What Can This Become?

- What can become of my temptations and struggles when Eager Anticipation is holding me firm?
- What can this Eager Anticipation become as I collide with the realities of a sinful, fallen humanity and creation? How might the hope the Spirit provides be applied to those whose flesh bedrock is crumbling and collapsing beneath them?
- What can this eager anticipation become for the people of God as we gather together in the midst of a nation experiencing chaos, yet in one voice we worship, praise, pray, encourage one another as we wait patiently for the day when our hope will become reality?